



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
In Cooperation with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture  
**West Virginia Field Office**  
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## FEBRUARY RED MEAT PRODUCTION

**Charleston, West Virginia – Commercial red meat production** during February 2018 totaled 500,000 pounds. This was unchanged from February 2017. Commercial red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter including beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton. Individual commodity production is total live weight of commercial slaughter.

**Commercial cattle slaughter** totaled 689,000 pounds live weight, up 3 percent from February 2017. Cattle slaughter totaled 700 head, up 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was down 7 pounds from the previous year, at 1,047 pounds.

**Commercial calf slaughter** was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

**Commercial hog slaughter** totaled 151,000 pounds live weight, down 11 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 500 head, down 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight was down 19 pounds from the previous year, at 285 pounds.

**Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter** was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

**United States – Commercial red meat production** for the United States totaled 4.06 billion pounds in February, up 3 percent from the 3.94 billion pounds produced in February 2017.

**Beef production**, at 1.98 billion pounds, was 3 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.42 million head, up 2 percent from February 2017. The average live weight was up 8 pounds from the previous year, at 1,368 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 5.8 million pounds, 3 percent above February a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 41,100 head, up 2 percent from February 2017. The average live weight was up 1 pound from last year, at 242 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 2.06 billion pounds, up 4 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 9.64 million head, up 3 percent from February 2017. The average live weight was up 2 pounds from the previous year, at 286 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 11.8 million pounds, was up 5 percent from February 2017. Sheep slaughter totaled 164,800 head, 3 percent above last year. The average live weight was 143 pounds, up 3 pounds from February a year ago.

**January to February 2018 commercial red meat production** was 8.65 billion pounds, up 5 percent from 2017. Accumulated beef production was up 5 percent from last year, veal was up 4 percent, pork was up 5 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 4 percent.

**February 2017** contained 20 weekdays (including 1 holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

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*Note: Percent changes are based on unrounded data.*